

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 08888 061653Z

61

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 061600Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0042

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T CAIRO 8888

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN ROLE IN PLO-UN DEBATE

1. DURING RIDE IN SECRETARY'S MOTORCADE FROM CAIRO AIRPORT NOVEMBER 5, MFA UNDERSEC (INTL ORGNS) MOHAMMED RIAD DESCRIBED TO DEP ASST SEC SAUNDERS ROLE HE EXPECTED EGYPTIAN UN DEL TO PLAY DURING FORTHCOMING PLO DEBATE UNGA. RIAD EXPECTED BE PRESENT FOR DEBATE AND INDICATED THAT FONMIN FAHMY MAY ATTEND, SAID THAT EGYPT WOULD STRIVE TO ACT AS MODERATING INFLUENCE ON PLO. HE REPORTED THAT AGREEMENT WAS ALREADY REACHED AT THE RABAT SUMMIT THAT THE PLO, IN ANY PRESENTATIONS BEFORE THE UNGA WOULD REFRAIN FROM ANY STATEMENTS WHICH COULD BE INTERPRETED AS THREATENING EXISTENCE OF ISRAEL. PLO HAS AGREED NOT TO MAKE ANY REFERENCE TO 1947 OR IN ANY WAY SUGGEST THAT THE GOAL OF THEIR STRUGGLE WAS ELIMINATION OF ISRAEL AS A STATE.

2. MOREOVER, IT HAD BEEN STRONGLY SUGGESTED TO THE PLO -- AND EGYPT WOULD CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE THIS -- THAT THE PLO NOT MAKE MORE THAN TWO INTERVENTIONS DURING THE
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DEBATE. IT WAS THE EGYPTIAN VIEW THAT ATTACKS AGAINST THE

PLO SHOULD BE ANSWERED BY OTHER ARAB NATIONS RATHER THAN BY PLO ITSELF. ALL IN ALL, HE LOOKED FOR A MODERATE, CONSTRUCTIVE DEBATE AND EMPHASIZED THAT EGYPT WOULD BE MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO DAMPEN ANY EXTREMISM ON THE PART OF THE PLO OR OTHER ARAB UN REPRESENTATIVES.

3. RIAD EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE EVENTUAL RESOLUTION SHOULD BE COUCHED IN SUCH TERMS THAT THE US PROBABLY COULD ABSTAIN RATHER THAN VOTE AGAINST.
EILTS

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NNN

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